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Letter dated 9 January 2004 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 8 January 2004, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Reşat Çağlar, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 30, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Altay **Cengizer**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Deputy Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 9 January 2004 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the several statements made by the representatives of the Greek Cypriot Administration during the meetings of the various Committees of the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, I wish herein to set the record straight.

Year after year, we have witnessed the appearance of Greek Cypriot officials before United Nations bodies to repeat their well known baseless allegations against Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, ignoring the fact that the very title they carry in doing so is an usurped one secured only by violence in December 1963.

None of the resolutions to which references are made in the above-mentioned statements describe the legitimate and justified Turkish intervention of 1974, undertaken in accordance with the Treaty of Guarantee of 1960, as "aggression" or "invasion", or the subsequent presence of Turkish troops in the island as "occupation". Such distortions are purely a Greek Cypriot invention aimed at blurring the issue and confusing the innocent with the guilty. On this point, I would only like to recall the dramatic statement made by Archbishop Makarios, the Greek Cypriot leader at the time, before the Security Council on 19 July 1974, in which he openly accused Greece, not Turkey, of invading and occupying Cyprus. His remarks, which came only four days after the Greek coup of 15 July 1974, are well recorded in the annals of the United Nations and hardly require further elaboration.

What had been going on in Cyprus before the coup, however, is just as, if not more, significant. The years from 1963 to 1974 were a period in which the Greek Cypriots, aided and abetted by Greece, practised ethnic cleansing, terrorism and tyranny against the Turkish Cypriots, all in the name of enosis. The atrocities committed by the Greek Cypriots during that period drew comments from the international news media, such as *The Washington Post*, which reported in its issue of 17 February 1964 that "Greek Cypriot fanatics appear bent on a policy of genocide"; from prominent statesmen like George Ball, the United States Under-Secretary of State at the time, who wrote in his memoirs, entitled *The Past Has Another Pattern*, that "Makarios's central interest was to block off Turkish intervention so that he and his Greek Cypriots could go on happily massacring Turkish Cypriots" (p. 64); and from the United Nations Secretary-General himself, who reported to the Security Council on 10 September 1964 that the Turkish Cypriots had been put under "veritable siege" (see S/5950 and Corr.1). The attempt by Greek Cypriot officials to brush aside this 11-year-long ordeal of the Turkish Cypriots is, to say the least, outrageous. It shows their total insincerity and refusal to show any sign of remorse or an attitude conducive to reconciliation.

Turkish Cypriot people are for a new partnership in Cyprus. Bizonality, sovereign equality and the continuation of the 1960 system of Guarantees are the essential ingredients of a viable and lasting settlement. In order to have a realistic chance of arriving at the desired stage, the Turkish Cypriot side must have a negotiating partner who has come to terms with its heavy responsibility in the creation of the Cyprus issue, and who is willing and able to negotiate for a new partnership free of the devious tactics employed hitherto.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 30, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Reşat **Çağlar**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus